

(ERNST exits. SALLY, still in her fur coat, collapses onto the bed)

CLIFF

Sally, now what's this all about?

SALLY

Did you guess I was terrified?

CLIFF

Were you?

SALLY

What if you'd - thrown me out? Can you imagine how that would feel - being thrown out twice in one day?

CLIFF

You mean - Max ... ?

SALLY

Dear Max. And you know whose fault it was?

(She points at CLIFF)

If you hadn't come to the Kit Kat Klub - and been so dreadfully attractive - and recited poetry -

(She suddenly sits up)

You know what I'd love? A spot of gin.

CLIFF

Gin?

SALLY

You've got some? I mean - I think one must.

CLIFF

No, I don't have any ...

SALLY

Oh, well, Prairie Oysters, then.

CLIFF

Prairie Oysters?

SALLY

I practically live on them. It's just a raw egg whooshed around in some Worcestershire sauce. It's heaven for a hangover.

CLIFF

I haven't got a hangover.

(SALLY takes eggs, salt, pepper and Worcestershire sauce out of her coat pocket. CLIFF watches her)

CLIFF (Cont'd)

That's quite a coat.

SALLY

It should be. It cost me all I had. Little did I dream how soon I'd be unemployed.

CLIFF

What about your job at the Klub?

SALLY

Well, that's rather complicated. You see, one of the owners of the Klub...

CLIFF

Dear Max?

SALLY

You're divinely intuitive! I do hope I'm not going to fall madly in love with you. Are you in the theatre in any way?

(CLIFF shakes his head)

Then you're safe - more or less. Though I do believe a woman can't be a truly great actress till she's had several passionate affairs - and had her heart broken.

(Manufacturing the Prairie Oysters,

SALLY breaks the eggs on this line)

I should have let Ernst pay my cab fare. He's got all that money from Paris.

CLIFF

From Paris?

SALLY

He smuggles it in for some political party.

CLIFF

Ernst is in politics?

SALLY

You didn't know? He goes to Paris about once a month and brings back pots of money.

CLIFF

He has to smuggle it in?

SALLY

It's terribly dangerous. But Ernst is so resourceful. He's discovered the Customs people almost never open the bags of non-Germans. So, just before the border, he finds some innocent-looking Englishman - or American ...

(She completes the Prairie Oysters)

CLIFF

It's hard to imagine an American that gullible.

(SALLY hands him his drink. She toasts)

SALLY

Hals and beinbruch. It means neck and leg break. It's supposed to stop it happening. Though I doubt it does.

CLIFF

(Toasting)

Look - it's about time we -

SALLY

Drink!

(SALLY drinks her Prairie Oyster. Then CLIFF sips his)

CLIFF

It's amazing! You know what this tastes like? Peppermint!

SALLY

Oh - well, it's your toothbrush glass. I should have rinsed it.

(SALLY wanders over to the writing table. She picks up a book)

This is your novel!

(She opens it)

It's in German!

(She looks at the cover)

Mein Kampf?

CLIFF

It's not my novel. I thought I should know something about German politics.

SALLY

Why? You're an American! You know, I've never known a novelist. Will I be allowed to watch you work? I promise to be incredibly quiet ...

CLIFF

I don't think I can write with someone else - on the premises.

SALLY

But I'm hardly noticeable - really.

(Imploring)

I'll go out when you're writing - take long invigorating walks!

CLIFF

In the middle of the night? And there's another thing: I'm not a prude. At least, I don't think I'm a prude. No - no - I've got work to do. I could never explain this arrangement. It's too peculiar.

SALLY

Peculiar? No, not in the least!

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PERFECTLY MARVELOUS

(Spoken, but the music is playing)

I THINK PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE. I REALLY DO, CLIFF,
DON'T YOU?

I DON'T THINK THEY SHOULD BE MADE TO APOLOGIZE
FOR ANYTHING THEY DO.

FOR EXAMPLE, IF I PAINT MY FINGERNAILS GREEN -
AND IT HAPPENS I DO PAINT THEM GREEN -

WELL, IF SOMEONE SHOULD ASK ME WHY,
I THINK IT'S PRETTY.

I THINK IT'S PRETTY, THAT'S WHAT I REPLY.

SO, IF ANYONE SHOULD ASK ABOUT YOU AND ME ONE DAY,
YOU HAVE TWO ALTERNATIVES:

YOU CAN EITHER SAY: "YES, IT'S TRUE WE'RE LIVING IN
DELICIOUS SIN,"

OR YOU CAN SIMPLY TELL THEM THE TRUTH, AND SAY ...

(SALLY sings)

I MET THIS PERFECTLY MARVELOUS GIRL

IN THIS PERFECTLY WONDERFUL PLACE

AS I LIFTED A GLASS TO THE START OF A MARVELOUS YEAR.

BEFORE YOU KNEW IT SHE CALLED ON THE PHONE, INVITING.

NEXT MOMENT I WAS NO LONGER ALONE,

BUT SAT RECITING SOME PERFECTLY BEAUTIFUL VERSE

IN MY CHARMING AMERICAN STYLE.

HOW I DAZZLED HER SENSES WAS TRULY NO LESS THAN A
CRIME.

NOW I'VE THIS PERFECTLY MARVELOUS GIRL

IN MY PERFECTLY BEAUTIFUL ROOM,

AND WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER AND HAVING A MARVELOUS TIME.

CLIFF

Sally, I'm afraid it wouldn't work. You're much too distracting.

SALLY

Distracting? No, inspiring!